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# NEWBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Northumberland



## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

year ended 31st December, 1971



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SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1971-1972

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Chairman:

Councillor S. Chapman

Deputy Chairman:

Councillor E. Stephens, J.P.

Councillor Mrs. M. Cook

" G. Harrison

" D. Hodson

" J.F. Lenaghan

" T.D. Marshall

" J.C. Murray

" T.G. Rogers

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

---

Medical Officer of Health:

H.C.T. Smith, M.B., CH.B., M.F.C.M., D.P.H., D.P.A.,

Chief Public Health Inspector:

John Corney, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

Trevor Harris, M.A.P.H.I. (resigned 30th September, 1971)

Frederick William Dixon, M.A.P.H.I.

David John Farquhar, M.A.P.H.I. (appointed 4th August, 1971)

Kenneth Buchan, M.A.P.H.I. (appointed 15th November, 1971)

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

Philip Dryden (appointed 3rd September, 1971)

Senior Clerk/Shorthand Typist:

Miss M.K. Brown

Junior Clerk/Typist:

Miss M.E. Wright

A N N U A L   R E P O R T  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Telephone:   Lemington 674112/3  
                                675872  
                                679191

Council Offices,  
Newburn,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
NE15 8QJ.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of  
Newburn.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

It is my privilege to present the Annual Report on  
the health of the district for 1971.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid 1971  
population takes account of the preliminary results of the  
1971 census. Here as elsewhere the population is lower than  
had been estimated for the last few years. In the last twelve  
months the number of inhabited houses increased by about 314,  
but the population estimate is only up by 540.

The birth rate for Newburn is slightly above the  
national average, well above the figure for Newcastle and  
Northumberland and more especially much above the figure for  
adjacent districts. This is probably because parts of the  
district are favoured by the recently married. The  
comparability factors for births and deaths are those used in  
1970 and will be adjusted next year in the light of the 1971  
census findings. The death rate when adjusted is again above  
the national and county figures. During 1971 there were  
eleven stillbirths which is a high figure but there was no  
association as far as could be ascertained and the cases were  
in separate parts of the district and at different times.  
Comment has been made in the past about the unsatisfactory  
figure for post neonatal deaths, that is deaths at ages over  
four weeks and under one year. However in 1971 there were no  
such deaths. All five infant deaths were in the first week.



The number of new cases of tuberculosis increased in 1970 but the figure was down again in 1971. Infectious disease was at a low level during 1971, but a lot of work was entailed in visiting persons who had returned from areas of Spain where cases of cholera had occurred.

Mr. Corney's section of the report details substantial progress with housing and also with **smoke control**. Parallel with this work a great deal of monitoring has to be done in connection with food, with places of work and a wide range of other matters. Conservation of the environment has become fashionable in recent years but those who have recently 'discovered' the environment pay very scant attention to the work of health departments who have been patiently trying to effect improvements for the better part of a century.

The work of the department could not proceed without the co-operation of many persons to whom thanks are due. I would like especially to thank members of the Council for their continuing interest in and ready support of the work of the department.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

H.C.T. SMITH,

Medical Officer of Health

# NEWBURN URBAN DISTRICT

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,648
Registrar General's estimated population	..	..	..	..	..	..	39,260
Number of inhabited houses according to rate book	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,627
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1,338,476
Sum represented by Penny Rate (1p)	..	..	..	..	..	..	£15,200

### Population trends:

1951	..	..	..	..	21,890
1956	..	..	..	..	25,020
1961	..	..	..	..	27,980
1962	..	..	..	..	29,000
1963	..	..	..	..	30,100
1964	..	..	..	..	30,730
1965	..	..	..	..	31,630
1966	..	..	..	..	32,480
1967	..	..	..	..	33,230
1968	..	..	..	..	34,100
1969	..	..	..	..	37,600
1970	..	..	..	..	38,720
1971	..	..	..	..	39,260

# VITAL STATISTICS

	Numbers			Rates
	M	F	Total	
Live Births .. .. .	314	302	616	
Crude birth rate per 1,000 population				15.7
Comparability factor 1.05				
Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 population				16.5
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate				1.03
Illegitimate Live Births .. .. .	17	14	31	
Illegitimate live birth rate per 100 live births				5.0
Still-births .. .. .	9	2	11	
Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still-births				17.5
Total Live and Still-Births .. .. .	323	304	627	
Infant Deaths (Deaths in first year of life) ..	2	3	5	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births				8.1
Legitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000				
legitimate live births .. .. .				8.6
Illegitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000				
illegitimate live births .. .. .				Nil
Neonatal Deaths (Deaths in first four weeks of life)	2	3	5	
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births				8.1
Early Neonatal Deaths (Deaths in first week of life)	2	3	5	
Perinatal Deaths (Still-births, plus deaths in				
first week of life) .. .. .	11	5	16	
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 total live				
and still-births .. .. .				25.5
Maternal Deaths (Deaths resulting from childbirth				
or abortion) .. .. .		Nil		
Deaths .. .. .	209	189	398	
Crude death rate per 1,000 population				10.1
Comparability factor 1.39				
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population				14.0
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate				1.21



COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	(Adjusted) Birth Rate	Illegitimate Live Birth Rate	Still-Birth Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Neonatal Mortality Rate	Perinatal Mortality Rate	(Adjusted) Death Rate
1956-1960	16.7	1.9	22.2	33.6	25.6	44.4	13.6
1961-1965	17.5	3.3	18.6	19.5	14.1	31.4	13.3
1966-1970	16.8	4.8	8.8	18.7	11.2	16.8	12.8
1966	16.2	4.5	9.1	18.5	11.1	18.3	12.8
1967	17.3	4.7	14.8	20.1	15.1	29.7	12.7
1968	16.4	4.6	5.1	22.3	12.0	10.2	13.2
1969	17.1	4.6	8.1	19.6	13.0	17.8	12.2
1970	17.0	5.6	4.8	12.8	4.8	7.9	13.2
1971	16.5	5.0	17.5	8.1	8.1	25.5	14.0

COMPARISON WITH OTHER AREAS - 1971

	Adjusted Birth Rate	Illegitimate Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Neonatal Mortality Rate	Perinatal Mortality Rate	Adjusted Death Rate	Comparability Factors	
								Births	Deaths
England & Wales	16.0	8.0	12.2	17.6	11.6	22.0	11.6	1.00	1.00
Northumberland Admin. County	15.0	6.0	11.2	13.5	9.6	19.2	12.8	1.01	1.03
Newcastle C.B.	15.7	12.5	16.8	22.2	11.1	26.2	15.1	1.10	1.10
Gosforth U.D	12.7	5.1	8.4	16.9	5.7	14.0	11.4	0.97	0.78
Newburn U.D.	16.5	5.0	17.5	8.1	8.1	25.5	14.0	1.05	1.39
Prudhoe U.D.	11.7	3.6	7.2	21.9	14.6	14.5	13.2	0.94	1.12
Castle Ward R.D.	8.9	6.1	15.7	13.3	2.7	18.3	10.1	0.86	0.75

### CAUSES OF STILL-BIRTHS

Concealed accidental haemorrhage	..	..	1
Placental Insufficiency	..	..	2
Postmaturity	..	..	1
Prolapsed cord	..	..	1
Anencephalus	..	..	1
Hydrocephalus	..	..	1
Cause unknown	..	..	4
			<hr/>
			11
			<hr/>

### CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

Prematurity	Female at 16 Hours
Respiratory distress syndrome	Female at 1 day
Subdural haemorrhage due to tentorial tear	Male at 1 day
Congenital heart disease	Male at 2 days
Congenital heart disease	Female at 4 days

### PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH 1971

Cause of Death	M	F	Total	%
Cancer	61	27	88	22.1
Ischaemic heart disease	65	38	103	25.9
Cerebro vascular disease	27	51	78	19.6
All other heart and circulatory disease	10	21	31	7.8
Respiratory disease	28	20	48	12.0
All other diseases	15	20	35	8.8
Accidents and suicide	3	12	15	3.8
	209	189	398	100.0



Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. - 1 year	Age in Years										
					1-4	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over		
B 5 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B17 Syphilis and its sequelae	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
B18 Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
B19 (1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal cavity etc.	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19 (2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
B19 (3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
B19 (4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19 (6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
B19 (7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
B19 (8) Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-
B19 (9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	M	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-
B19 (10) Leukaemia	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
B19 (11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
B20 Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT AGES DURING 1971 (Continued)

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. - 1 year	Age in Years								75 & over	
					1-4	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-		
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
B46 (1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
B46 (3) Mental disorders	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
B46 (5) Other diseases of Nervous System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
B27 Hypertensive disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
B28 Ischaemic heart disease	M	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	21	25	12
	F	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	28
B29 Other forms of heart disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
B30 Cerebrovascular disease	M	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	10	12
	F	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	11	34
B46 (6) Other diseases of circulatory system	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
	F	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7
B32 Pneumonia	M	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7
	F	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	10
B33 (1) Bronchitis and emphysema	M	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	4
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2
B46 (7) Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
B34 Peptic ulcer	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

## CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT AGES DURING 1971 (Continued)

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 wks.	4 wks. - 1 year	Age in Years								75 & over	
					1-4	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-		
B36 Intestinal Obstruction and hernia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B37 Cirrhosis of liver	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
B46 (8) Other diseases of digestive system	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
B38 Nephritis and nephrosis	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
B46 (9) Other diseases, Genito-urinary system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46 (11) Diseases of musculo- skeletal system	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
B42 Congenital anomalies	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B43 Birth Injury, difficult Labour, etc.	F	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B45 Symptoms and ill defined conditions	M	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
BE47 Motor vehicle accidents	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
BE48 All other accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
BE49 Suicide and self- inflicted injuries	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8
	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	209	2	-	1	2	1	-	6	16	46	85	50	
	F	189	3	-	-	-	-	1	8	6	17	42	110	

# ACCIDENTAL DEATHS 1971

Cause of Death	Sex	Age					
		1 - 4	45+	55+	65+	75+	Total
<u>Motor vehicle accidents</u>							
Car Driver/Lorry	M	-	-	1	-	-	1
	F	-	1	-	-	-	1
<u>Other accidents</u>							
Fractured femur	M	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	-	-	-	1	6	7
Head Injuries (fell from swing)	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
Carbon monoxide poisoning	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	1	1
Barbiturate poisoning	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	1	1
	M	-	-	1	1	-	2
	F	1	1	-	1	8	11



# TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New cases notified				Inward Transfers			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
20 - 24 years	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-

Comparison with previous years

Years	New Cases	Inward Transfers	Deaths
Average 1946-50	38	-	13
" 1951-55	37	17	5
" 1956-60	20	13	2
" 1961-65	16	4	1
1966	7	1	-
1967	8	3	-
1968	7	2	1
1969	4	2	3
1970	13	4	1
1971	4	-	1



TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1971

	Number of cases on register at commencement of year		Number of cases notified for the first time		Inward Transfers		Number of cases which have been restored to the register during the year		Number of cases removed from register		Number of cases remaining on register at end of year	
	P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.
Males	53	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	4
Females	26	13	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	26	13

# INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Notifications Received 1971

Disease	Age						
	0-1	1-4	5-14	15-44	45-64	65+	Total
Measles	1	32	20	1	-	-	54
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	3	6	-	-	-	9
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

## MONTH OF NOTIFICATION

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	1	-	16	9	14	8	3	2	1	-	-	-	54
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	9
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### SALMONELLA INFECTIONS

One lady in the district who had been on holiday in Majorca was ill for most of her holiday and on return was found to have an infection with Salmonella Typhi-murium. The lady soon recovered but the organism did not disappear for some months.

Another lady on holiday in another part of the country became infected with Salmonella heidelberg. This infection quickly cleared up.

In both these instances checks were made on the families of those concerned and on other persons who had been with them on holiday, but in all cases with negative results.

### CHOLERA SURVEILLANCE

On September 7th Spain notified the World Health Organisation that cases of Cholera had occurred in Barcelona and Valencia provinces. The country was declared free of infection on October 15th. Between these dates, Port and Airport Health Authorities put persons who had returned from these areas on surveillance in accordance with the International Health Regulations. We received notification of one hundred and five persons from this district who had been in the infected areas. All were visited around the fifth day after return and none had symptoms which warranted further investigation.

During October the Lisbon area of Portugal was declared infected, and one or two persons returning from there were also visited.



## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Immunisation and vaccination are now given according to the following schedule:-

<u>Visits</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Vaccine</u>
1	4 months	Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis
2	6 months	Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis
3	12 months	Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis
4	2nd year	Measles
5	4 - 5 years	Diphtheria, Tetanus and Oral Poliomyelitis
6	10 - 12 years	B.C.G. (if necessary after skin test)
7	12 - 14 years	Rubella (girls only)
8	on leaving school	Tetanus and Oral Poliomyelitis

During 1971 a letter was received from Sir George Godber, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Security stating that the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation are now of the opinion that routine vaccination against smallpox in infancy is no longer necessary. This conclusion was reached after weighing the chances of developing smallpox against the risk of serious complications of vaccination.

In recent years substantial progress has been made by the World Health Organisation in its smallpox eradication programme. The area of the world in which smallpox now exists and the populations in which smallpox is still occurring have been greatly reduced. The chances of importation of the disease into Britain has been substantially lessened.

All travellers to and from parts of the world where smallpox still exists will still require to be vaccinated. So also will health service staff who are liable to come in contact with patients with the disease.



NUMBERS IMMUNISED DURING 1971

	Year of Birth						
	1971	1970	1969	1968	1964-67	1955-63	Total
Primary triple	10	472	109	14	15	2	622
Primary tetanus	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Reinforcing triple	-	3	6	1	252	2	264
Reinforcing diphtheria/tetanus	-	-	2	3	427	5	437
Reinforcing tetanus	-	-	-	1	4	43	48
Primary poliomyelitis	9	461	109	13	13	-	605
Reinforcing poliomyelitis	-	5	10	2	682	152	851
Measles	1	145	118	56	85	2	407
Rubella	-	-	-	-	-	250	250

## HOUSING

One hundred and thirty six medical notes were seen during the year. These were coded as follows, if necessary after visiting the person concerned.

A	0
B	11
C	62
D	52
Nil	11
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Under the Council's system of taking applicants strictly in the order of date of their application only those with A coding (persons whose medical condition makes re-housing urgent) and B (persons who on medical grounds should be given priority) are taken out of turn as far as new applicants are concerned. For exchanges, and for those who are near the top of the list, C and D codings (persons whose medical condition makes them deserving of consideration) are also taken into account. The system has worked well although difficulties have arisen where persons have successfully sought priority on medical grounds but subsequently have proved somewhat 'choosy' when council houses have been offered to them.



A N N U A L R E P O R T  
OF THE  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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To the Chairman and Members of the Council

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting my report for 1971.

Progress in the slum clearance programme was maintained during the year, the Lucker Street, Lemington Compulsory Purchase Order being confirmed, and an Order made in respect of Grasmere Avenue and Derwent Avenue, Newburn. Re-housing from Lucker Street was slower than anticipated delaying the clearance of the site which unfortunately deteriorated rapidly. The redevelopment of this site will greatly improve the environment in this part of Lemington, where nearby property is already being improved by many owner/occupiers with the aid of grants.

Impetus was given to the improvement grant scheme by the introduction of the 75% grant instead of a 50% grant, the increase in applications for 'discretionary' grants being most marked. Applications for the new grants were received from owners of recently built houses where the kitchenettes were very small but it was decided that grant would not be paid in respect of improvements made to houses built after 1944. Administration of the grants schemes takes up a considerable amount of time, but this is an important part of the general housing programme, and the results make it time well spent.

After the frustrations of 1970 in the work of smoke control because of the inadequate supply of solid smokeless fuel, it was encouraging to be able to make progress again this year. The No. 11 area covering 216 premises from the western boundary of the district at the Royal French Arms to Throckley cross-roads came into operation in August. Two further orders were made at Chapel Park and South Dumpling Hall to cover new developments which when completed would include over 2,000 premises. Observations were made on three sources of industrial smoke, but there was no cause for serious complaint.



A greater number of inspections of food premises was made, and it was found necessary to draw the attention of the occupiers to the importance of maintaining a higher standard of cleanliness in a number of cases, although no serious contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations were found. The attention of shop keepers was again drawn to the necessity of proper stock rotation to prevent stale food being sold. This advice was re-inforced when food past its approved 'shelf-life' was discovered. This subject of date-stamping of food is one which has received much publicity and opinion is supporting the use of a date rather than a code, so that the customer can recognise when a food should be withdrawn from sale.

Although fewer inspections were made under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 than in the previous year, many more contraventions were found, an unsatisfactory standard of cleanliness and the absence of an Abstract of the Act being the most common faults. In eight premises thermometers were not provided but the temperature when checked was found to be adequate, thus illustrating that although a contravention was recorded, it was not of a serious nature.

Noise abatement is becoming a more important function of the department as members of the public begin to realise that the distressing effects of excessive noise can be classified as an environmental hazard. Although very few complaints have been received, one particularly intractable problem arose from the complaint of a resident outside the district who was convinced that noise from a local factory was the cause of her having her sleep disturbed at regular intervals. Investigations necessitated one of the inspectors visiting the house and the factory between 11.p.m and 2.a.m on several occasions. The factory management agreed to carry out sound proofing of a section of the factory, although the noise could not be classified as 'loud'. In fact the investigators found it difficult to detect more than a slight 'vibration', yet it was sufficient to cause the complainant some distress. Such a case has to be treated sympathetically, yet there is insufficient evidence of noise nuisance for any statutory action to be taken.

The bonus scheme for refuse collectors introduced in 1970 continued to work reasonably well, matters of detail being resolved in discussion with officers of the appropriate Trade Unions when necessary. A slight increase in the amount of bonus paid arose through an employee retiring and not being replaced, and with additional premises being occupied on developing estates at Chapel Park, West Denton and South Dumpling Hall, South Denton. The increased speed of collection sometimes resulted in a lowering of the quality of the work and the shop stewards' attention was drawn to the matter. Generally work was carried out satisfactorily.

The tonnage of salvage dispatched was less than in the previous year because of restrictions imposed by the paper mills. The volume of refuse continued to increase and light weight material caused problems of adequate control on the refuse tip. Prospects of the incineration plant to serve Gosforth, Newcastle and Newburn coming into operation were as remote as ever at the end of the year. This was particularly frustrating when other joint schemes for authorities on Tyneside were making good progress. It now appears that the incinerator will not be built until after the new Metropolitan District, into which Newburn will be absorbed, has been established. Tipping space in Newburn will probably have been exhausted by that time and arrangements will have to be made with Newcastle for disposal of the refuse.

There were changes in the staff during the year, Mr. T. Harris leaving to take up an appointment in the Midlands and Mr. K. Buchan being appointed in his place. The establishment was increased by one inspector, and Mr. D. Farquhar, trainee inspector, who qualified in 1971 was appointed Additional Public Health Inspector. In accordance with Council practice another pupil was appointed, Mr. P. Dryden being the successful applicant.

My thanks are due to the staff of the Department including Mr. Gray, Foreman, and Mr. Charlton, rodent operator, for the conscientious way in which they have carried out their various duties.

Dr. Smith and the other chief officers have offered their usual co-operation which is much appreciated, as is the interest shown in the work of the department by Councillor Chapman and members of the committee.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. CORNEY,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



# INSPECTION OF DISTRICT

Nature of Inspection									Visits
Caravan Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	543
Civic Amenities Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Disinfestation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	197
Food & Drugs Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	106
Food Hygiene Regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	200
Factories Act..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
Housing ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	697
Infectious Disease .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	238
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
National Assistance Act .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Noise Abatement Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Nuisance .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	144
Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
Rodent Control.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	847
Smoke Control .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Slum Clearance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	44
Special ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	242
Water Supply - Baths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
TOTAL									3,732

# HOUSING STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1971

New Houses completed during the year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	62	—	62
(b) By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c) By Private Persons	—	301	301

Total number of inhabited houses in district 13,528  
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority 4,104

## CLOSING AND DEMOLITION

(1) Houses demolished in Clearance Areas 146  
(2) Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas 25  
(3) Houses closed, not demolished 31  
(4) Any other house permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above. Nil

## REPAIRS

Houses made fit

(5) By informal action 30  
(6) By owners, following statutory notice 10  
(7) By Local Authority in default of owners 1  
(8) Demolition orders revoked after reconstruction Nil



## IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

### (a) Discretionary

(1)	Applications submitted to Local Authority during the year	12
(2)	Applications rejected	Nil
(3)	Applications approved	12
(4)	Approximate average grant approved per house	£557
(5)	Total number of houses approved for grant in area since inception of scheme	337

### (b) Standard

	During the year	Total to date
(1) Number of separate houses for which grants have been made	46	391
(2) Number of houses so provided with:-		
(i) Bath or shower	18	216
(ii) Wash hand basin	20	237
(iii) Hot water supply	49	284
(iv) Water closet	38	344
(v) Sink	7	147

CLEARANCE AREA PROGRAMME

No.of houses demolished 1957 to 1970	-	872
Individual Unfit Houses closed	-	83

1971

Location	No. of dwellings to be demolished
Lucker Street, Lemington	56
Grasmere Avenue, Newburn	33
Derwent Avenue, Newburn	17
	<hr/>
	106
	<hr/>

Individual Unfit Houses Closed:-

North Walbottle	-	3
Lemington	-	2
Newburn	-	3

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT  
INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority.	2	2	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	46	47	7	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	18	23	1	-
TOTAL	66	72	8	-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	
			By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	2	—	—
TOTAL	8	3	—	—

PART VIII - OUTWORK (SECTION 113 )

Nature of work	No. of Out-workers in August list re- quired by Section 113 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists
The making of receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	3	-	-

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

### (a) Unsound Food - Section 2

1. Ice Cream Cornet containing a cigarette end - Vendor fined £3.
2. Beef Steak Pie affected with mould - Vendor fined £30.

### (b) Milk Supplies

Samples of milk retailed in the Urban District are taken by the County Health Inspector. Forty eight samples were submitted for examination, and all passed the appropriate tests except one which failed the Methylene Blue Test.

### (c) Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

### (d) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The total number of food premises subject to these regulations is 166, comprising 107 shops, 27 canteens, 5 factories, 16 public houses, 10 clubs and 1 mussels bottling factory.

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 is as follows:-

Butcher	10
Fried Fish	8
Ice Cream	67
Mussels	1
Factory	1
Bakery	<u>1</u>
	<u>88</u>

### (e) Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.



(f) Food Inspections

Unsound Food Surrendered						Cwts.	lbs.
Canned meats	..	..	..	..	..	0	16
Other canned foods	.	..	..	..	.	2	12
Fish (Fresh)	..	..	..	..	..	0	70
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown	.				.	2	33

(g) Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

Number of Registered Dairies	4
Number of Registered Distributors	46

(h) Ice Cream Premises

Number on Register at end of year	67
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(i) Slaughterhouses

Number of Registered Slaughterhouses	1
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(j) Meat Inspection

Number of carcasses inspected:-

Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
245	681	52

Total weight of condemned meat - 4cwts. 100lbs.

Condemned meat was disposed of by means of an incinerator operated by the owners of the slaughterhouse.

WATER SUPPLY

The district's water is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

Examinations:- Laboratory reports submitted by the Company indicate that there were 1,032 control samples taken throughout the year for bacteriological examination, all but three proved excellent. In these instances check samples were taken and were "satisfactory".

During the year twelve samples were taken in the Urban District, and all were "satisfactory".

The chemical composition of domestic water remained unchanged, fluoride being added at the rate of 1.0 milligrammes per litre, the optimum dose for the promotion of dental health.

# OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

## REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises (1)	Number of premises registered during the year (2)	Number of Registered Premises at end of year (3)	Number of Registered Premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices .. .. .	1	20	10
Retail Shops .. ..	4	117	92
Wholesale shops, and Warehouses .. ..	1	4	2
Catering establishments open to the public .. ..	—	17	6
TOTALS ..	6	158	110

## ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	Nature of contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness .. .. .	15
6	Temperature .. .. .	8
7	Ventilation .. .. .	3
8	Lighting .. .. .	4
9	Sanitary conveniences .. .. .	4
10	Washing facilities .. .. .	4
13	Sitting facilities .. .. .	1
16	Floors, passage and stairs .. .. .	8
24	First Aid .. .. .	3
	Other matters - Abstract .. .. .	13
	TOTAL ..	63

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

Name or Description of Area and Date of Operation	Acreage	No. of Properties
Newburn No. 1 (Throckley) October, 1962	128.0	1306
Newburn No. 2 (Chapel House Estate) October, 1961	190.0	1677
Newburn No. 3 (West Denton) September, 1965	22.0	239
Newburn No. 4 (Westerhope/West Denton) July, 1966	222.4	1903
Newburn No. 5 (West Avenue) January, 1966	4.8	58
Newburn No. 6 (South Denton) July, 1966	11.0	135
Newburn No. 7 (Walbottle) August, 1967	14.0	84
Newburn No. 8 (Lemington) August, 1967	31.0	279
Newburn No. 9 (Lemington) July, 1969	17.0	262
Newburn No. 10 (Lemington) July, 1969	52.0	194(550)
Newburn No. 11 (Throckley) August, 1971	104.2	216
Newburn No. 12 (Chapel Park Estate) September, 1971	130.0	356(1800)
Newburn No. 13 (South Dumpling Hall) September, 1971	73.0	0 (350)

NOTE: The figures in brackets refer to the estimated number of properties which will be included in smoke control areas when the housing estates are completed.



# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following return is forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food relating to action taken during the year ended 31st December, 1971.

	Type of Property	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	14,859	42
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	300	—
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	178	—
(ii) Mice	22	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	—	—
(b) Number infested by		
(i) Rats	—	—
(ii) Mice	—	—





